**Grade Level**: Kindergarten

**Topic**: Water Pollution (Lesson #1)

**Standards**:

RL.K.1 With prompting and support, ask and answer questions about key details in a text.

SL.K.6 (Speaking and Listening) Speak audibly and express thoughts, feelings and ideas clearly.

SL.K.3 Ask and answer questions in order to seek help, get information, or clarify something that is not understood.

SL.K.1 Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about kindergarten topics and texts.

**Time**: 45 minute period

**Objectives**:

Students will be able to describe water pollution

Students will be able to describe the importance of clean water for daily use

Students will observe the changes that occur to Swimmy’s environment (the river) as pollutants are added along his movement downstream Students will be able to predict the effects these changes will have on Swimmy and his environment

**Materials**:

-teacher made book about Swimmy the Fish on chart paper:

-basin of clean water

-sand, soil, stones, household trash, fruit rinds, paper, plastic wrap,

-vegetable oil

-sponge fish

**Procedures**:

First we will read and act out the story Swimmy the Fish page by page.

We will have the water basin (the river) on the mat as we read the story.

We will call on children to add each of the different pollutants to the water as they are introduced in the text, as Swimmy swims downstream.

As each pollutant is added the class can discuss what is happening so far and how it might affect Swimmy and his environment?

**Assessment**:

First students will discuss the sequence of events that occurred during Swimmy’s path downstream. After the discussion students will go back to their seats and record the state of the river at the beginning of the story, throughout the story and as Swimmy encounters different pollutants, and the state of the river at the end of the story. How did Swimmy’s environment change? How will the polluted river affect Swimmy?

**Swimmy the Fish story**

Here is a river (basin with clean water). In this river is a fish named Swimmy. In the spring Swimmy travels down the river. As he swims down Swimmy will pass many different parts of the river. Suddenly it begins to rain and some of the soil that is on the side of the river starts to fall into the water (students will dump some soil into the basin).

Swimmy keeps moving down the river and gets to a part of the river where there are many houses around. There are many people who litter and throw garbage into the river (students add household garbage into the basin). Swimmy continues down the river where he gets to an area where there is a big parking lot with lots of cars. Some of the cars that are parked by the river have oil leaking out from them that drain into the river (students add oil into the basin.) As Swimmy continues swimming down the river he passes a city park where there are a lot of people having a picnic by the water. As they finish eating, instead of throwing their garbage into the trash, they throw it directly into the water (students add fruit rinds, banana peels, plastic wrap and other garbage).